

## Falmouth Inner Harbor Subwatershed

### Falmouth, Cape Cod, Massachusetts

Falmouth Inner Harbor Subwatershed is located in the downtown area of Falmouth. It is a small watershed with an area of 545 acres. The Route 28 business corridor runs through the center. The areas to the north and south of Route 28 are residentially developed, while the areas along Route 28 and Falmouth Harbor are largely commercially developed. The northern portion of the watershed falls within Goodwill Park and is protected open space. Falmouth Harbor opens to Vineyard Sound through Falmouth Inner Harbor.

The harbor is 0.7 miles long and ranges from 100 feet wide at the entrance to almost 450 feet at the center of the harbor. It narrows to about 140 feet at the innermost end. Dredging to a depth of 10 feet is authorized. The harbor area is approximately 40 acres. According to 1995 data, there were 155 moorings, 178 boat slips, and 600 boats in the harbor during the peak season. There are seven gas and oil facilities and three pump out facilities.

Approximately five percent of Falmouth is publicly sewered. The sewered areas are Main Street in Falmouth and nearly all of Woods Hole. Ninety to ninety-five percent of the town is on municipal water. There is one treatment plant in Falmouth, currently processing 550,000 gallons per day (gpd) with a capacity of 810,000 gpd and discharging to groundwater. A \$14 million upgrade has been approved to bring the capacity up to one million gpd in the next few years.

#### Stewards:

- Lawrence School
- Falmouth Associations Concerned with Estuaries and Saltponds (FACES)

#### Studies conducted in the watershed:

- Cape Cod Atlas of Tidally Restricted Salt Marshes. 2001. Cape Cod Commission.

#### Who is collecting water quality data and where:

- Lawrence School – Shiverick's Pond, Weeks Pond
- Secchi depth collected for Jones Pond in September 2002 as part of Secchi Dip-In project.

#### Management actions taken:

- A launching ramp in Falmouth Inner Harbor was scheduled for construction in summer 2001.

#### Subwatershed facts: (For data sources see Appendix)

- 21 E sites: 2, located at BP Service Station, E. Main St. Falmouth and Cumberland Farms, E. Main St. Falmouth
- Solid waste sites: none
- No Interim Wellhead Protection Areas (IWPAs) or Zone IIs.
- Percent of the undeveloped land that is protected (according to 1985/1990 data): 47.2%
- Acres of existing wetlands: 0
- Certified vernal pools: none

- Named freshwater ponds: Nyes, Morse, Jones, Sols
- Named rivers or creeks: none
- 1998 Massachusetts 303(d) List of Impaired Waterbodies: Falmouth Inner Harbor, Great Harbor, and Little Harbor - pathogens.
- Shellfish growing areas: Falmouth Harbor is conditionally approved for shellfish harvesting.

### Priorities:

- Initiate water quality monitoring program in Falmouth Inner Harbor for nutrients and bacteria to participate in the Estuaries Project, Southeastern Massachusetts Embayment Restoration. Work with Estuaries Project to develop a QAPP.
- Morse and Nye Ponds need volunteers to participate in the Pond and Lakes Stewardship Project (PALS), measuring water quality and other characteristics of the ponds.
- Acquire open space. Parcels considered a priority for acquisition for water supply protection and development: Falmouth Tracts 4, 6, 11, 12, 19, 26, 33, and 35 were ranked as having medium or high water supply development potential in the Cape Cod Commission's *Priority Land Acquisition Assessment Project* (April 1999). These tracts are located throughout the Town of Falmouth.

### Recreation:

Camping areas: none

Golf courses: none

Pathways and trails:

- Goodwill Park
- [www.capecodcommission.org/pathways/trailguide.htm](http://www.capecodcommission.org/pathways/trailguide.htm)

Public access:

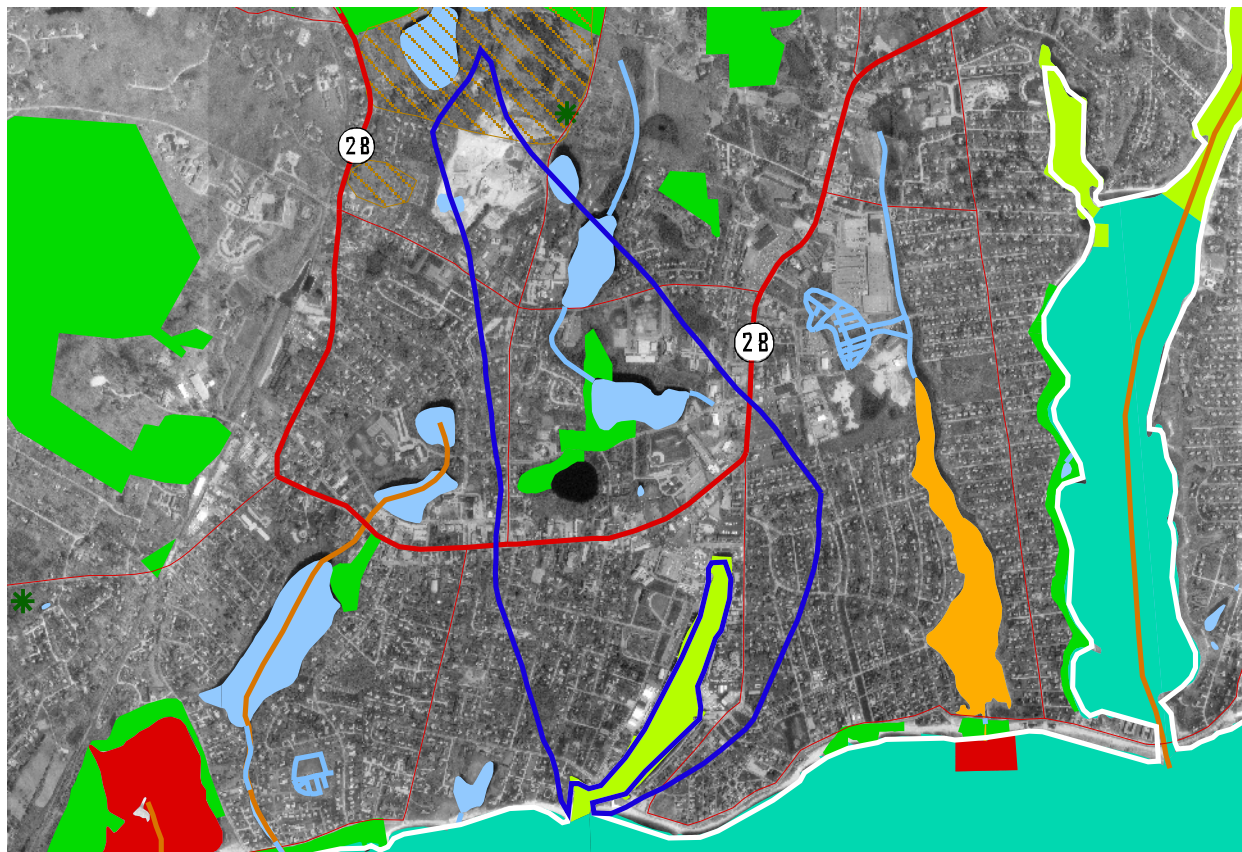
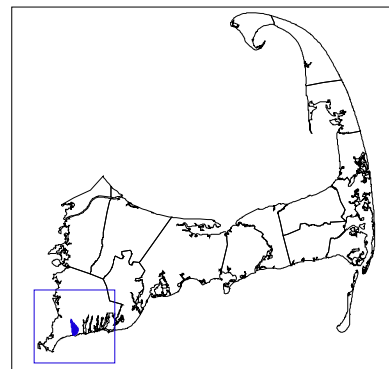
- [www.state.ma.us/dfwele/pab/pabSEmap.htm](http://www.state.ma.us/dfwele/pab/pabSEmap.htm)

Public beaches and landings:

- Beach on Grews Pond
- Harbor Entrance Beach
- Landing on harbor

# Falmouth Inner Harbor

Falmouth, MA



## Watershed Resources



0.5 0 0.5 Miles

### Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program Data

- Certified Vernal Pool
- Priority Habitats of Rare Species
- Estimated Habitats of Rare Species

### Groundwater Protection Areas

- Interim Wellhead Protection Area
- Zone II
- Solid Waste Facility

Watershed Boundary

Anadromous Fish Run

### Shellfish Growing Areas

- APPROVED
- CONDITIONALLY APPROVED
- MANAGEMENT CLOSURE
- PROHIBITED
- RESTRICTED
- Open Space

Streams

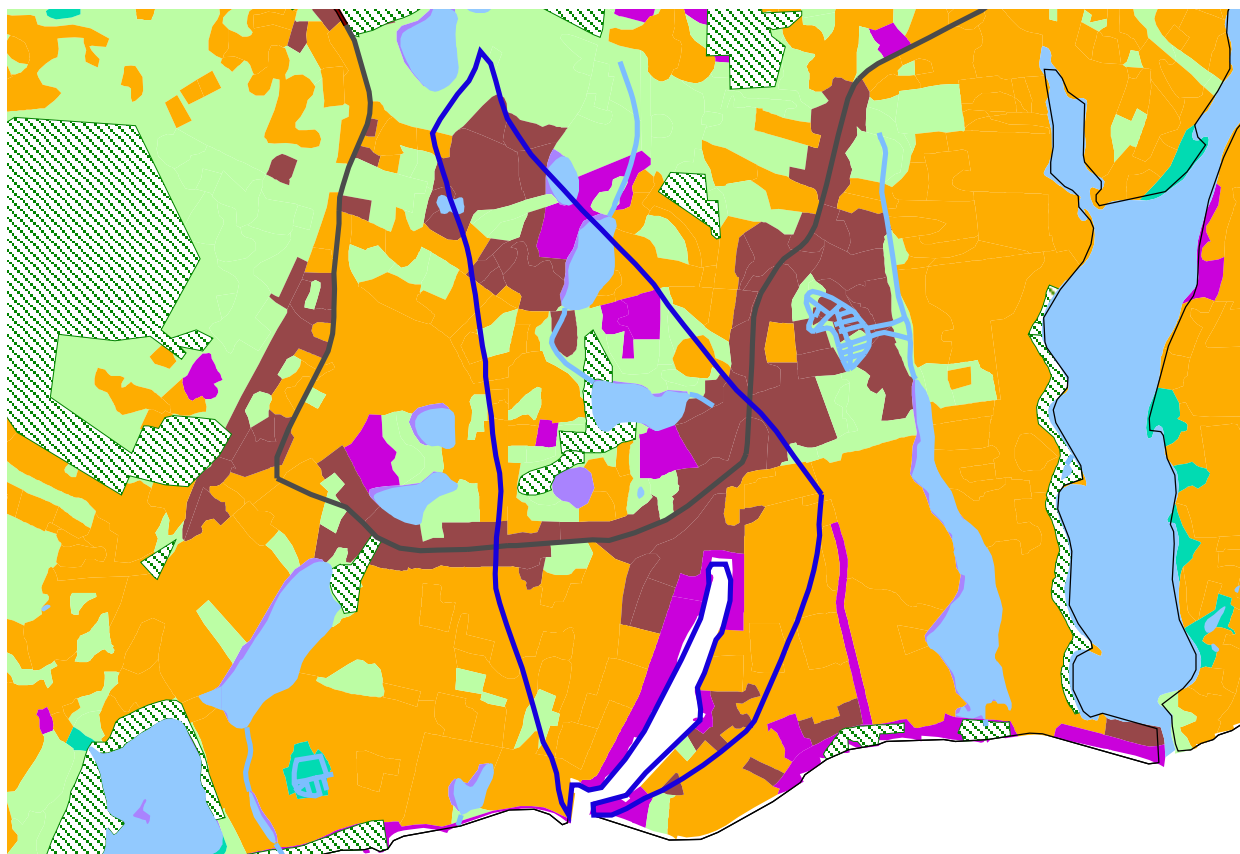
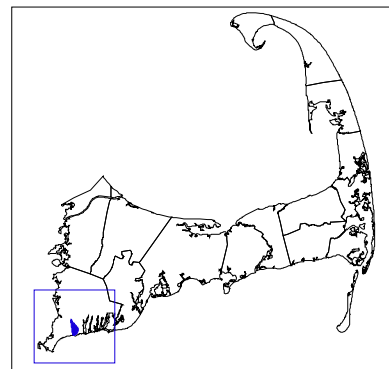
Ponds

Roads



# Falmouth Inner Harbor

Falmouth, MA



## Land Use



0.5 0 0.5 Miles

## Land Use

- non-residential developed
- open land
- recreation
- residential
- water
- wetland

- Streams
- Ponds

- Watershed Boundary

- Protected Open Space

